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May 22, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING

The Committee on Traffic and Parking met on May 22, 2007, with Chairman Dennis Sullivan, presiding and Committee Member Alderman Walter Pero also present and voting. Also present were Alderman William Roche, Cheryl Horan and Joseph Bolduc from Green Cab.

Mr. Bolduc and Ms. Horan addressed the committee and said that it would be unfair for the city to give out taxi medallions for \$200 as this would hurt the small cab owner and really doesn't help anyone. Ms. Horan told the members that Green Cab is not opposed to new technology or innovation but even though the savings from hybrid vehicles is significant, the batteries are environmentally hazardous and expensive. Alderman Roche said that he believes that the city should offer an incentive to cab companies moving in an environmentally friendly direction. Ms. Horan, responding to questions, said that Green Cab owns about 40 medallions with the last one issued in 1991.

Aldermen Pero and Roche submitted the following resolution: ***That when taxi medallions come into the city for licensure approval, the cab companies and the City work together to move part of the cab fleet towards becoming environmentally friendly.*** The resolution was passed.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 4 items:

175050: Communication from Solicitor - Re: Taxi regulations

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

179529: Order - Amending Chapter 13, Section 13-6.1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Somerville

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

181002: Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of an amendment to Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances regarding Automated Red Light Enforcement and Speed Enforcement.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

183126: Ordinance - By Ald. Trane, Proposing a change to the taxi ordinance to offer 2 new medallions for hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles.

RECOMMENDATION: Should not be approved

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

Alderman Dennis Sullivan, Chairman
Committee on Traffic and Parking

